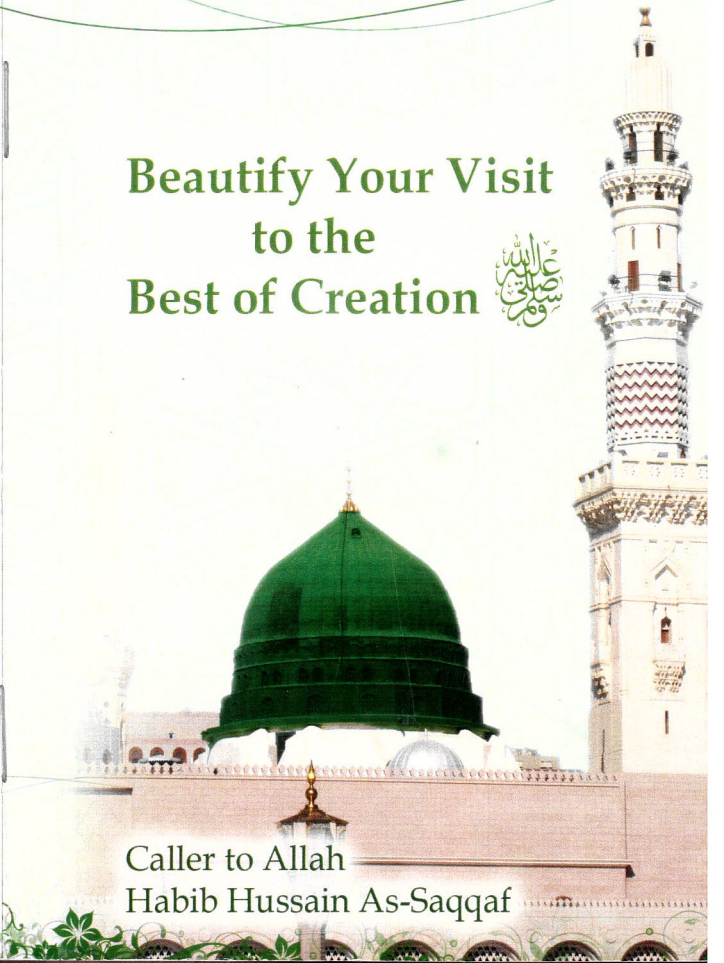
Beautify Your Visit to the Best of Creation ﷺ



Caller to Allah
Habib Hussain As-Saqqaf



Beautify Your Visit to the Best of Creation ﷺ

An abridged translation of

"Teeb Al Maqam Fi Ziyarat Saheb Al Maqam"

by the Caller to Allah
Habib Hussein As-Saqqaf

CONTENTS

Foreword *2*

The Merits of Visiting Madinah *4*

One Who Wills to Visit Madinah *8*

Upon Entering the Holy Mosque of the Prophet ﷺ *13*

Once at the Noble Quarters of the Prophet ﷺ *18*

Renew Repentance *37*

Remembering the Ummah of the Beloved ﷺ *39*

Renew the Pledge *41*

After Sending Salutations to the Prophet ﷺ *43*

Greeting Sayiduna Abu Bakr al Siddiq رضي الله عنه *48*

Greeting Sayiduna Umar ibn al Khattab رضي الله عنه *50*

Visiting Al Baqi' (Heavenly Cemetery of Madinah) *51*

Visiting Mount Uhud and Sayiduna Hamzah رضي الله عنه *53*

The Rest of the Holy Places One Must Visit *54*

When Departing Madinah *56*

Foreward

All praise is due to Allah ﷻ who has bestowed His favour upon the believers by sending them the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, who originated from amongst them. He relates to them of His signs, purifies them, and teaches them from the Book and imparts The Wisdom.

All praise is due to you O Allah for your noble favour, the greatness of Your blessing and generosity. May Your salutations and peace be upon the coolness of our eyes, the origin of all beauty, our Master Muhammad, the Prophet of Mercy, the one who is compassionate with his nation, and upon his family and companions.

The visit of the Prophet ﷺ is one of the greatest actions a believer can do which would draw him or her closer to him ﷺ and ensure spiritual safety.

Whilst visiting the Prophet ﷺ the believer would be doing themselves a great favour by beautifying their visit. This is achieved by being careful to implement the required etiquette and knowing the required intentions. The more reverance and etiquette one implements and the purer one's intention is, the more benefi-

cial and beautiful is one's visit. Paying close attention to one's spiritual state whilst conducting the visit, to the best of one's ability is called for, until the signs of acceptance become manifest.

This short guide has been named "Teeb Al Maqam Fi Ziyarat Saheb Al Maqam" - Beautification of the Station whilst visiting the One who carries the Highest of Stations.

I ask Allah The Almighty to accept this work and for it to be of benefit to every visitor of the Prophet ﷺ, to grant us his ﷺ intercession, his ﷺ close company, to be his ﷺ neighbour, and allow us to be at his ﷺ service and die upon his ﷺ creed.

May the best of salutations, peace and blessings be upon our Master Muhammad ﷺ and upon his family and companions.

Habib Hussein As-Saqqaf

The Merits of Visiting Madinah

Love of Madinah and its residents is proof of one's faith. Therefore, a sign of one's faith (*iman*) being complete is to frequently visit Madinah or to yearn for it. The Prophet ﷺ said,

"The sign of Belief is to love the Ansar, and the sign of hypocrisy is to hate the Ansar."

[narrated by Anas bin Malik, Sahih Bukhari Chapter: Merits of the Helpers in Madinah (Ansaar)/ Sahih Muslim, Kitab al Iman – The Book of Faith].

Whoever visits the grave of the Prophet ﷺ, it is as if he visited him during his life. The Prophet ﷺ said,

"After my passing away, whoever visits my grave after performing Hajj, it will be as though he has visited me during my lifetime."

[Darqutni, as-Sunan, 2:447, hadith no:2627 also al-Baihaqi in his al-Sunan al-Kubra, 5:286].

The question now arises, which should be performed first - pilgrimage (*Hajj*) or the visit to Madinah? The scholars have said, if it is a person's first time, that is, the obligatory (*fard*) pilgrimage, then it is preferred to offer the pilgrimage prior to the visit. As the Prophet ﷺ said "*whoever visits my grave after performing hajj*." Some scholars have said that if the pilgrimage is voluntary (*tatawu'an*) then one is free to choose which one to perform first.

Among the merits of visiting Madinah, The Enlightened City

- The Prophet's ﷺ intercession becomes incumbent (*wajib*) upon the person who visits him ﷺ. How great is he ﷺ, he shows the greatest form of generosity and hospitality to those who visited him during his life and those who visit him after his passing are honoured through his ﷺ intercession.

- Verily it strengthens the connection with our Master, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ. How can one perform the Hajj and not visit The Messenger of Allah ﷺ. How can you perform the Hajj, circumambulate around the Kabah, run (*sa'ee*) between Safa and Marwa and stand on the planes of Arafah, rest in Mina and Muzdalifah and throw your pebbles, then give your back to the Messenger of Allah ﷺ when he ﷺ is the one who taught you? Not visiting him ﷺ is disrespect. Therefore, visiting him ﷺ can be considered a form of connecting with him ﷺ. Verily you are the one in need of visiting him ﷺ.

- The Messenger of Allah ﷺ knows each visitor personally and by name. Contrary to the one who sends salutations upon him ﷺ from another country. It could be that the salutation reaches him ﷺ through an Angel as an intermediary.

However, when one visits the Prophet ﷺ his response is instant and direct between you and him ﷺ. Hence you say; "may the peace and blessings be upon *you*" (addressing one who is present). The Prophet ﷺ responds to your greeting.

- Whoever visits Madinah with the intention of being cured, Allah Almighty cures him.

In Madinah you will find the spiritual presence of the Prophet ﷺ, so when you smell its scent, intend that you are inhaling his ﷺ traces - lest you be cured by the will of Allah The Almighty. Intend by smelling the breeze of Madinah that you inhale and smell the fragrance of Paradise, for whoever smells the fragrance of Paradise will be of its inhabitants.

These are just some of the benefits and merits of visiting Madinah. There are many more, however, these are the main points.

Foreward

All praise is due to Allah ﷻ who has bestowed His favour upon the believers by sending them the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, who originated from amongst them. He relates to them of His signs, purifies them, and teaches them from the Book and imparts The Wisdom.

All praise is due to you O Allah for your noble favour, the greatness of Your blessing and generosity. May Your salutations and peace be upon the coolness of our eyes, the origin of all beauty, our Master Muhammad, the Prophet of Mercy, the one who is compassionate with his nation, and upon his family and companions.

The visit of the Prophet ﷺ is one of the greatest actions a believer can do which would draw him or her closer to him ﷺ and ensure spiritual safety.

Whilst visiting the Prophet ﷺ the believer would be doing themselves a great favour by beautifying their visit. This is achieved by being careful to implement the required etiquette and knowing the required intentions. The more reverance and etiquette one implements and the purer one's intention is, the more benefi-

cial and beautiful is one's visit. Paying close attention to one's spiritual state whilst conducting the visit, to the best of one's ability is called for, until the signs of acceptance become manifest.

This short guide has been named "Teeb Al Maqam Fi Ziyarat Saheb Al Maqam" - Beautification of the Station whilst visiting the One who carries the Highest of Stations.

I ask Allah The Almighty to accept this work and for it to be of benefit to every visitor of the Prophet ﷺ, to grant us his ﷺ intercession, his ﷺ close company, to be his ﷺ neighbour, and allow us to be at his ﷺ service and die upon his ﷺ creed.

May the best of salutations, peace and blessings be upon our Master Muhammad ﷺ and upon his family and companions.

Habib Hussein As-Saqqaf

6) When you enter Madinah, gaze upon its sky, its ground, its mountains, its palm trees, its soil. As the aforementioned have all seen the noble face of the Prophet ﷺ. He ﷺ walked upon its earth with his ﷺ noble feet. Reflect upon this especially when walking towards the graves of his companions and when visiting the master of martyrs, Hamza ﷺ.

If you are able to, perform ghusl and dress yourself preferably in new or clean clothing with the intention of honouring the Prophet ﷺ. Perfume yourself with the best fragrance you have and remember to use the toothstick (*miswak*), as the Prophet ﷺ praised such actions.

Remember to give charity as Allah The Almighty states in the Quran:

﴿ يَٰٓأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوٓاْ إِذَا نَٰجَيْتُمُ ٱلرَّسُولَ فَقَدِّمُواْ بَيْنَ يَدَيْ نَجْوَىٰكُمْ صَدَقَةً ذَٰلِكَ خَيْرٌ لَّكُمْ وَأَطْهَرُ فَإِن لَّمْ تَجِدُواْ فَإِنَّ ٱللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ ﴾

"O ye who believe! When ye hold conference with the messenger, offer an alms before your conference. That is better and purer for you. But if ye cannot find (the wherewithal) then lo! Allah is Forgiving, Merciful."

[Surat Al Mujadalah, Ayah 12.]

Make many righteous intentions. If possible, whilst approaching the sacred Mosque, it is preferred to walk on foot – that is, to not be in a vehicle or on a riding beast - in the hope that your feet may step on the same places that the noble feet of the Prophet ﷺ walked on.

7) When in Madinah do not belittle or look down upon anything or anyone. Nor should you get upset over anything; from the weather to the people. Everything in the city of the Prophet ﷺ is beautiful - its water, its heat, its winter, its coolness, its winds, its dust, its trees, its sun, its moon, its stars, and its food.

8) Truly feel and imagine that the Prophet ﷺ lived in Madinah – walked in it and ate from its food.

9) Enter upon Madinah with the best of manners, strongest feeling of yearning, and send salutations to the Prophet ﷺ with ardent longing and eagerness for verily he ﷺ hears you.

Imagine how all those who came to visit him ﷺ before you of the saints, the righteous and gnostics, would greet him ﷺ with immense longing and yearning.

Upon Entering the Holy Mosque of the Prophet ﷺ

You may enter through any door you choose, however, some of the righteous predecessors preferred to enter through the door of Jibril which is located behind the door of Al Salam – to the rear of the house of the Prophet ﷺ, from the living quarters of Sayyidah Fatima Al-Zahra' ؓ.
You should enter the mosque with your right foot as per the etiquette pertaining to mosques. Recite the common supplications;

"Bissmillah, was-salaat wassalam 'ala Rasul-Allah, Allahumma ighfirli thunubi, wa iftahli abwab rahmatak."

"*In the name of Allah, may the best of salutations, peace and blessings be upon the Messenger of Allah. O Allah forgive my wrongdoings and open Your doors of mercy.*"

Then say; "Rabbi, adkhilni mudkhala sidqin, warzukni ziyarat Rasulik, kama razaqt awliya'ak wa ahl ta'atak, waghfirli, warhamni ya khair mas'ool."

"*O Allah, grant me a sincere entrance, and enable me to visit your Messenger, as you have granted those close to You and those who are obedient to You, and forgive me, and bestow Your mercy upon me – You are best of those who are entreated.*"

Then enter with presence of heart, and true acknowledgment that this place on earth was chosen by Allah The Almighty for His Messenger ﷺ. Accordingly enter, whilst lowering your gaze, head bowed, without allowing your eyes to wander. You should always lower your voice, be full of etiquette, humility, reverance and awe. Continue in this way, until you reach the noble *Rawdah* wherein you pray two cycles of prayer *(rak'at)*.

Measure from the left of his ﷺ pulpit, approximately fourteen arms lengths, and one hand span. The scholars say that this is the place in which the Prophet ﷺ stood and prayed. Once you find this location, pray there, and make the intention to receive Divine assistance, from his ﷺ place of prostration, where his ﷺ noble feet stood and from the Divine light of that holy place. Allah says:

﴿ وَإِذْ جَعَلْنَا الْبَيْتَ مَثَابَةً لِّلنَّاسِ وَأَمْناً وَاتَّخِذُواْ مِن مَّقَامِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ مُصَلًّى وَعَهِدْنَا إِلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْمَاعِيلَ أَن طَهِّرَا بَيْتِيَ لِلطَّائِفِينَ وَالْعَاكِفِينَ وَالرُّكَّعِ السُّجُودِ ﴾

"And when We made the House (at Makka) a resort for mankind and sanctuary, (saying): Take as your place of worship the place where Abraham stood (to pray). And We imposed a duty upon Abraham and Ishmael, (saying): Purify My house for those who go around and those who meditate therein and those who bow down and prostrate themselves (inworship)."

[Al Baqara, Ayah 125]

Thereafter, make a prostration of gratitude to Allah ﷻ as He has ennobled you and bestowed upon you such a great privilege. Many forget to do this. Wait for a while in the *Rawdah*, until you are spiritually ready to go and visit the Prophet ﷺ.

At this moment imagine that you are living during his ﷺ time and that you are about to enter upon the master of existence ﷺ. You must appreciate at this point, that you are in the place where the Prophet ﷺ used to pray, teach, supplicate, advise, and called upon Allah ﷻ. Imagine how many visitors came to this place.

Remember how much you yearned and wished to be standing in this very place and now you are here – this is the eye of certainty! Think how many have been deprived of this visit, and it may be that they were more deserving than you.

Such realisations will increase your yearning and compassion and love for Allah and His Messenger ﷺ. Once you feel that your heart is present, rise from your place in the blessed *Rawdah*, facing in the noble direction of the Prophet's ﷺ quarters, filled with humility, with your gaze and head lowered, and not looking at those around you.

Once At the Noble Quarters of the Prophet ﷺ

Imagine that you are entering such a place by the very blessings of your spiritual teachers (Shuyukh), because it may be that the awe of the meeting is in proportion to how you present yourself. If you depend on your own self, you are deficient, so present yourself through the company of your spiritual teachers.

Go forward in such manner until you are standing in front of his ﷺ noble head. With the qibla behind you, face the blessed countenance of the Prophet ﷺ.
Imagine that you are facing the Prophet ﷺ and he ﷺ is facing you, face to face. When you stand in such a position, realise that you are in a place where the blessings, mercy, and Divine gazes are never cut off.

This is because you are in the presence of the mercy, due to the saying of the Prophet ﷺ "Verily I am a mercy gifted" [Sunan ad-Darami].

By merely standing there you are receiving of His divine Mercy, Forgiveness and Gazes. Know that your state while standing at his ﷺ noble grave will be your state when standing at his ﷺ pond on the day of Judgement. The more you are full of etiquette and longing, such will be your state on the day of Judgement. As for the one who goes and looks into the window and focuses on the appearance and is preoccupied by the outer, what do you expect of his visit?
Now begin with greeting the Prophet ﷺ (whilst imagining the he ﷺ is alive).

When greeting the Prophet ﷺ, combine these salutations and prayers in the following manner:

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا رسول الله

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayyidi ya Rasullullah
Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O Messenger of Allah

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا نبي الله

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Nabi'ullah
Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O Prophet of Allah

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا حبيب الله

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Habibullah
Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O Beloved of Allah

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا أمين الله

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Aminullah
Peace and blessings be upon you my master,
the keeper of Allah's trust

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا سيد المرسلين

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Sayid al Mursalin
Peace and blessings be upon you my master,
O master of Messengers

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا خاتم النبيين

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya khatim an-nabiyin
Peace and blessings be upon you my master,
O seal of the Prophets

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا قائد الغر المحجلين

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya qa'id al ghur al muhajalin
Peace and blessings be upon you my master,
the leader of those illumined by their
ablution on The Day of Judgement

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا أفضل خلق الله

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya afdal khalq Allah
Peace and blessings be upon you my master, the best of Allah's creation

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا صاحب اللواء

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya saheb al-liwa'
Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O bearer of the banner

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا صاحب المقام المحمود

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya saheb al maqam al mahmud
Peace and blessing be upon you my master, O possessor of the elevated station

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا صاحب السجدة يوم القيامة

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya saheb al sajdata yowm al qiyama
Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O possessor of the grand prostration on the Day of Judgement

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا سيد الأمة

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya sayid al ummah
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O master of the nation

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا نبي الرحمة

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Nabi al Rahma
Peace and blessings be upon you my master,
O Prophet of Mercy

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا صفي الله

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya safiyullah
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
the Chosen one by Allah (for such a high rank)

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا عين النعيم

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya 'ayn al na'im
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
the eye of pleasure

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا علم اليقين

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya 'ilm al yaqin
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O knowledge of certainty

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا أيها النبي الأمي

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya ayuhal nabiyul ummiy
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O unlettered Prophet

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا رحمةً للعالمين

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya rahmatan lil 'alamin
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Mercy to the worlds

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا أحمد

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Ahmad
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Ahmad

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا محمد

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Muhammad
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Muhammad

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا طه

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Taha
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Taha

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا ياسين

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Yasin
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Yasin

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا بشير

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Bashir
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Bashir (the bestower of good things)

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا نذير

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya nathir

Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Nathir (warner to mankind)

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا طاهر

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi Tahir

Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Tahir (the pure one)

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا عاقب

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya 'aqeb

Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O the last of the Prophets

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا مزمل

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya muzzamil

Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Muzzamil (wrapped in cloth)

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا مدثر

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Muddathir
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Muddathir (covered in a garment/the cloaked one)

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا نور

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Nur
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O Nur (light)

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا أبا الزهراء

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Abal Zahra'
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O father of Al-Zahra'

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا جد الحسن و الحسين

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya jad al Hassan wal Hussein
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O grandfather of Al Hassan and Al Hussein

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا بدر الدجى

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya badr al dujja
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O full moon of the dark night

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا سيدي يا منة الله

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya minnatullah
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O gift of Allah

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا نعمة الله

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya ne'matullah
Peace and blessing be upon you my master,
O blessing of Allah

الصلاة والسلام عليك يا رسول الله يا من أنت حريص علينا ،

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Rasulullah ya man anta haris 'alayna
Peace and blessing be upon you O
Messenger of Allah, O you who is
concerned about us

Ponder over Allah Almighty's words;

﴿ لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِّنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيصٌ عَلَيْكُم بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَؤُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ ﴾

"There has certainly come to you a Messenger from among yourselves. Grievous to him is what you suffer; [he is] concerned over you and to the believers is kind and merciful."

[At-tawba, Ayah 128]

Also address him ﷺ with some of the verses in the Quran that mentioned him ﷺ:

Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O Messenger of Allah, O you who Allah said about you:

﴿ وَإِنَّكَ لَعَلَى خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ ﴾

"And indeed, you are of a great moral character."

[Al-Qalam, Ayah 4]

Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O Messenger of Allah, O you who Allah said about you:

﴿ أَلَمْ نَشْرَحْ لَكَ صَدْرَكَ ﴾

"Did we not expand for you,
[O Muhammad] your chest?"

[Al-Inshirah, Ayah 1]

Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O Messenger of Allah, O you who Allah said about you:

﴿ وَلَسَوْفَ يُعْطِيكَ رَبُّكَ فَتَرْضَىٰ ﴾

"And Your Lord shall grant you,
and you will be satisfied."

[Al-Duha, Ayah 5]

Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O Messenger of Allah, O you who Allah said about you:

﴿ لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِّنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيصٌ عَلَيْكُم بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَؤُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ ﴾

"There has certainly come to you a Messenger from among yourselves, Grievous to him is what you suffer; [He is] concerned over you, and to the believers is kind and merciful."

[at-Tawba, Ayah 128]

Peace and blessings be upon you my master, O Messenger of Allah, you who Allah said about you:

﴿ إِنَّا فَتَحْنَا لَكَ فَتْحًا مُّبِينًا ﴾

"Indeed, we have given you,
[O Muhammad] a clear conquest"

[Al-Fath, Ayah 1]

﴿ لَقَدْ صَدَقَ اللَّهُ رَسُولَهُ الرُّؤْيَا بِالْحَقِّ لَتَدْخُلُنَّ الْمَسْجِدَ الْحَرَامَ إِن شَاءَ اللَّهُ آمِنِينَ مُحَلِّقِينَ رُؤُوسَكُمْ وَمُقَصِّرِينَ لا تَخَافُونَ فَعَلِمَ مَا لَمْ تَعْلَمُوا فَجَعَلَ مِن دُونِ ذَلِكَ فَتْحًا قَرِيبًا ﴾

"Certainly has Allah showed to His Messenger the vision in truth. You will surely enter Al-Masjid Al Haram (the sacred mosque) if Allah wills, in safety, with your heads shaved and (hair) shortened, not fearing (anyone). He knew what you did not know and has arranged before that a conquest near [at hand]."

[Al-Fath, Ayah 27]

﴿ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُولُ اللَّهِ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ أَشِدَّاء عَلَى الْكُفَّارِ رُحَمَاء بَيْنَهُمْ تَرَاهُمْ رُكَّعًا سُجَّدًا يَبْتَغُونَ فَضْلا مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَرِضْوَانًا سِيمَاهُمْ فِي وُجُوهِهِم مِّنْ أَثَرِ السُّجُودِ ذَلِكَ مَثَلُهُمْ فِي التَّوْرَاةِ وَمَثَلُهُمْ فِي الإِنجِيلِ كَزَرْعٍ أَخْرَجَ شَطْأَهُ فَآزَرَهُ فَاسْتَغْلَظَ فَاسْتَوَى عَلَى سُوقِهِ يُعْجِبُ الزُّرَّاعَ لِيَغِيظَ بِهِمُ الْكُفَّارَ وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ مِنْهُم مَّغْفِرَةً وَأَجْرًا عَظِيمًا ﴾

"Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah; and those with him are stern against the disbelievers, merciful among themselves. You see them bowing and prostrating (in prayer), seeking bounty from Allah and (His) pleasure. Their mark is on their faces from the trace of prostration. That is their description in the Torah. And their description is in the Gospel is as a plant which produces its offshoots and strengthens them so they grow firm and stand upon their stalks, delighting the sowers – so that Allah may arrange by them the disbelievers. Allah has promised those who believe and do righteous deeds among them forgiveness and a great reward."

[Al-Fath, Ayah 29]

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Rasullullah wa 'ala aalika at-tahirin wa 'ala azwajika umuhat al mu'minin
Peace and blessing be upon you my master, O Messenger of Allah, and upon your pure folk, and upon your wives, the mothers of the believers.

As-salatu was-salamu 'alayka ya Sayidi ya Rasullullah wa 'ala as-habika al ghur almiyamin ajma'in wa 'ala jami' 'ibadillah al saliheen.
Peace and blessing be upon you my master, O Messenger of Allah, and upon your companions, and upon all the righteous servants of Allah.

As-salamu 'alayka ayuhal nabi wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh wa 'alayhim ajma'in
Peace and Mercy of Allah be upon you O Prophet and upon them all.

Recite Surat Al-Fath (The Conquest), for the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, with the intention that you are bringing joy to his ﷺ heart. Ask Allah The Almighty to give you of its secrets.

Ask Allah The Almighty to allow you to be with him ﷺ, to grant you a place in his ﷺ heart, to have longing for him ﷺ and to bless you with his ﷺ love.

Whoever is sincere, at this point will feel the spiritual intensity of this holy place. A sign of this, is that one is totally absorbed in the sweetness of the visit and is totally oblivious to others present.

Whilst greeting him ﷺ intend to respond as the companions responded to him ﷺ and testified to his ﷺ message, by saying:

I bare witness O my master that you have conveyed the message in the best possible way and executed the trust in the best way and you strove for the sake of Allah in the best way until

death came to you. And I testify that you have advised, sacrificed, struggled, called upon people, and taught them. Without your calling I would not have stood before you O Messenger of Allah. You taught me how to perform ablution and you taught me how to pray. O how much you suffered and tired for our sake. You left Makkah for our sake. Your people expelled you for our sake. You prayed for your people by saying "O Allah forgive my people for they do not know." You prayed for us and not against us. How gentle and generous are you!"

Then recite the famous verses which the Bedouin recited:

O best of those whose bones are buried in the deep earth,
And from whose fragrance the depth
and the height have become sweet,
May I be the ransom for a grave which thou inhabit,
And in which are found purity, bounty and munificence!

Renew Repentance

Sincerely announce and renew your repentance before the Messenger of Allah ﷺ. Repent from all kinds of sins – minor and major. Repent for neglecting the Sunnah and for engaging in that which is other than Allah The Almighty. Be genuine with Allah The Almighty as you are now in a place of acceptance. You are standing before the Prophet ﷺ whom Allah's peace and blessings are upon him, his folk and companions - how can you therefore not be accepted? To think you will not be accepted is to have a negative opinion of Allah The Almighty.

Also recite the following verse as the righteous predecessors would;

And if, when they wronged themselves they had come to you [O Muhammad] and asked forgiveness of Allah and the Messenger had asked forgiveness for them, they would have found Allah accepting of repentance and Merciful."

[An-Nisa, Ayah 64]

Then you say; "And I have come to you ﷺ asking for your great intercession to Allah The Almighty, asking for forgiveness of my sins."

Remembering the Ummah of the Beloved ﷺ

Among that which attracts the Prophet's ﷺ attention is to mention his Ummah (nation) to him ﷺ. It is as though you are saying; "I am a representative of this Ummah, O Messenger of Allah." He spent his ﷺ entire life saying, "My Ummah, My Ummah." Therefore, when you address him ﷺ as such, you share in his ﷺ concern. Then whilst in a state of sorrow, mention the state of the Ummah. "O Messenger of Allah ﷺ – your Ummah is in this condition and that condition." Then ask to take one of the flags which he ﷺ used to give to his ﷺ companions before he ﷺ would send them to call people to Allah The Almighty. It is as if you are asking for his ﷺ permission to spread his ﷺ message to the entire world. Most of the people who receive assistance from him are those who share and think of his ﷺ concern and spread his ﷺ message.

Then acknowledge to him ﷺ what he ﷺ did

for his ﷺ Ummah. "You asked your Lord saying, "*O Allah, forgive my people, for they do not know.*" It is because of this prayer O my Master, O Messenger of Allah, that the Creator has sent forth a person like me to stand before you, and pay regards to you. I am the result of your supplication. I am, O Messenger of Allah, the result of your tears and your prostration."

It is beautiful act to relate to the Prophet ﷺ how Allah The Almighty has shown His ﷺ favour upon him ﷺ . "*The favour is of Allah and his Messenger.*" [Surat Aali-'Imran, Ayah 164]

Renew the Pledge

Renew the pledge of allegiance after reciting the following verse before him;

﴿ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُبَايِعُونَكَ إِنَّمَا يُبَايِعُونَ اللَّهَ يَدُ اللَّهِ فَوْقَ أَيْدِيهِمْ ﴾

"Indeed, those who pledge allegiance to you [O Muhammad] they are actually pledging allegiance to Allah."

[Al Fath, Ayah 10]

﴿ لَقَدْ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذْ يُبَايِعُونَكَ تَحْتَ الشَّجَرَةِ فَعَلِمَ مَا فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ فَأَنْزَلَ السَّكِينَةَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَأَثَابَهُمْ فَتْحًا قَرِيبًا ﴾

"Certainly was Allah pleased with the believers when they pledged allegiance to you, [O Muhammad], under the tree, and He knew what was in their hearts, so he sent down tranquillity upon them and rewarded them with an imminent conquest."

[Al-Fath, Ayah 18]

You should be aware of what you are saying and believe in what you are addressing him ﷺ with. As all that is mentioned here is mighty and priceless, not just words to repeat or phrases to chant.

If you are unable to enter inside, then you may do what some of the scholars and righteous do. That is, perform all of the above whilst either sitting, in any part of the *Rawdah* or outside the masjid, facing the noble quarters of the Prophet ﷺ.

After Sending Salutations to the Beloved ﷺ

- Recall to him the incident of the yearning tree trunk.
- Mention some of the miracles, which took place during some of the battles in Madinah.
- Mention to him the effect his noble hand had on one of the youths of the companions when he placed it on his chest.
- Mention to him the water springing from between his fingers.

- Recite the verse for Him, which was a reason for him receiving glad tidings from Allah The Almighty. When he was reciting the saying of Our Prophet Jesus Peace be upon him:

"If you should punish them – indeed they are Your servants, but if You forgive them indeed it is You who is the Exalted in Might, the Wise." [al-Ma'idah, Ayah 118]

Address him and say: "We were informed that when you read this verse you kept repeating it and weeping. Until Allah sent Jibril to ask you, "what makes you weep?" You replied, "Ummati, Ummati" (my people, my people). After which Jibril went to Allah and then returned to you, "Al Salam (that is, Allah) sends salam (peace) to you and says that He will never dishonour you with your Ummah."

- Mention the saying of Prophet Ibrahim: "So whoever follows me – then he is of me, and whoever disobeys me –

indeed, You are Forgiving and Merciful." Then say, I am from your nation, how fortunate, O Messenger of Allah, am I to be with you. You wept for my sake O Messenger of Allah, until Allah gave you and us glad tidings that He will not dishonour you with your Ummah.

- Recite some of the poems which were written in praise of him ﷺ, especially the ones he heard during his lifetime. You can also recite some of the verses of the poem of the Cloak (Burdah).

- Send peace and blessings upon him ﷺ using wording that you love and that your soul is moved by.

- Some of the scholars have recommended to stand before the Messenger of Allah ﷺ and recite the verse:

"Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and his angels (ask Him to do so) O you who believe,

ask Allah to confer blessings upon him and ask Allah to grant him peace."
[al Ahzab, Ayah 56]

Then say *"Sallallahu 'alayka wa sallam ya Muhammad"* 70 times. When you do this, it will then be called from above by an Angel "ask and you shall receive."

- Convey greetings to the Prophet ﷺ on behalf of whoever requested you to do so.

- Pray and ask of Allah Almighty in the presence of the Prophet ﷺ. Make a lot of dua for the Ummah, as this makes him ﷺ happy.

- Many people come and ask Allah The Almighty only for their personal needs, especially worldy needs. Ask Allah The Almighty for greater and more important matters. Ask Him to enable you to accompany him ﷺ in Paradise.

- Mention some of the sayings of his companions which made him ﷺ happy, such as the saying of the companion when he said "my neck instead of your neck O Messenger of Allah" (I'm ready to die instead of you). Now say it with utmost sincerity, "my neck instead of your neck O Messenger of Allah ﷺ." After completing all of the above, make dua (supplicate) to Allah The Almighty asking for all that you want and need pertaining to your faith, your worldly life, and your hereafter.

Then recite the following Surahs; al-Fatiha, Ayat al-Kursi, al-Ikhlas 11 times, al-Falaq, an-Naas and Yasin. Supplicate to Allah Almighty for him ﷺ, his parents, his offspring, relatives of the prophet, his companions, his wives and all the people of al baqi' – the heavenly cemetery adjacent to the Mosque of the Prophet ﷺ.

Greeting Sayiduna Abu Bakr al Siddiq ﷺ

Move an arm's length to the right and you will be facing Sayiduna Abu Bakr al Siddiq's ﷺ head.

His head is parallel to the Messenger of Allah's ﷺ shoulders. Then say:
"Peace be upon you my master Abu Bakr al Siddiq."
"Peace be upon you O you who accompanied Allah's Messenger in the cave."
"How blessed are you that AllahThe Almighty bestowed so much upon you. You spent three days in the cave with the Messenger of Allah ﷺ."
"Peace be upon you, as you carried the Messenger of Allah on the day of his migration (Hijrah)."
"Peace be upon you, my master Abu Bakr al Siddiq, the one who blocked the opening of the cave with your foot until the snake bit you."

Peace be upon you, my master Abu Bakr al Siddiq, O you who said to the Messenger of Allah "I left for them, Allah and His Messenger."

"Peace be upon you, my master Abu Bark al Siddiq, O you whose heart adored whatever Allah's Messenger ﷺ loved (by something revered in his heart)."

"Peace be upon you, my master Abu Bakr al Siddiq, O you who freed slaves, so as to delight the Prophet ﷺ."

Then address him and say, "may Allah The Almighty reward you with the best reward, for all you did for the sake of the Ummah. Allah is my witness, that I love you. O you who my Lord said about you: "as one of two when they were in the cave, and he said to his companion, do not be sorrowful, indeed Allah is with us" *[al Tawbah 40]*.

Thereafter, make dua for him ﷺ. Recite the following Surahs; al-Fatiha, Yasin, al-Ikhlas 11 times and ayat al-Kursi, al-Naas and al-Falaq.

Greeting Sayiduna Umar ibn al Khattab ﷺ

Move another arm's length to the right to face Sayiduna Umar ibn al Khattab ﷺ. At this point, mention to him all the characteristics and the deeds that he performed and carried out with the Prophet ﷺ.

Describe him as being just, being a noble fighter, as being the martyr of the sanctuary and speaker of the truth.

Then say, "peace be upon you, my master Umar, O you who Allah made Islam respected through you."
"May Allah reward you the best of reward on our behalf, and on Allah and His Messenger's behalf."
"Allah is my witness, I love you." Then make du'a for him and read surat al Fatiha and any other Surahs you would like to and send the reward to his soul.

Visiting al Baqi'
(Heavenly Cemetery of Madinah)

When visiting al Baqi' first visit the graves of Ahl al-Bayt (the Messenger's ﷺ family). Sayida Fatimah al Zahra', Sayiduna al Hassan, Sayiduna Ali Zain al 'Abideen son of al Hussein, Sayiduna Ja'far as-Sadiq ﷺ.

When you visit them, greet them, and recall characteristics of each one of them.
Sayida Fatimah al Zahra', "O you who is a part of the beloved ﷺ. O you who looked like Allah's Messenger ﷺ. O mother of her father (as the Messenger ﷺ liked to call her), and then mention her blessings and her merit in the heart of the Beloved ﷺ. Then move on to Allah's Messenger's ﷺ daughters and wives ﷺ.
Move towards the Messenger of Allah's ﷺ son, Ibrahim, who is buried to the side of Sayiduna Anas bin Malik ﷺ.

Nearby are Sayiduna Uthman bin 'Affan and Haleema as-Sa'diyah (the Prophet's ﷺ wet nurse) and Abu Sa'eed al-Khodri ﷺ. There are ten thousand companions ﷺ and their graves buried in the Baqi'. Therefore, standing there is as though you are standing in a garden from the gardens of Paradise. Ask Allah The Almighty that you be buried with them, and be gathered in their group. Then address them all, convey your greetings and your longing (yearning) and congratulate them for the favour Allah The Almighy bestowed upon them. Address them all, with a present heart, say, "Allah is my witness I love you all, and repeat it, "I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you all." Ask Allah The Almighty to make you loved by Him.

Also ask Allah Most High to increase your love for Him, and increase your love for them. When you say that to people of al-Baqi' you will receive a Divine Assistance (*maddad*) and comfort in your heart.

Visiting Mount Uhud and Sayiduna Hamzah ﷺ

When visiting Sayiduna Hamzah ﷺ, the Master of the Martyrs, face his grave and greet him and pay him the respect he deserves. Address him, "O Lion of Allah and his Messenger, O Master of the Martyrs, O beloved of Allah's Messenger, O uncle of Allah's Messenger ﷺ ".

Then call upon Allah Almighty. It has been said: If any person asks for Martyrdom, and is honest and sincere whilst visiting the Master of the Martyrs, Allah The Almighty will grant him his request.

Pay greetings to Sayidna Musa'ab bin 'Umayr, Abdullah bin Jahsh and the rest of the companions and martyrs of Uhud at the cemetery ﷺ.

Then walk up to Mount Uhud, ponder with reverence and sense that the Prophet ﷺ looked at it on his way back from the battle of Tabuk.

He ﷺ said, "This is Taba, and this is Uhud, a mountain that loves us and we love it". Our teachers used to tell us to look at this mountain as it has looked at Allah's Messenger ﷺ, and Allah's Messenger ﷺ looked at it.

The Rest of the Holy Places one Must Visit

Do not forget to visit Masjid Qiba', the Prophet ﷺ used to go there every Saturday. At Qiba' there is the well of Eris, which contains the Prophet's ﷺ saliva in it. Also in it is his ﷺ ring which was with Sayiduna Uthman رضي الله عنه and it is still there until now, which is engraved with "Muhammad Messenger of Allah."

Al Fath Mosque: This is located on Mount Sal'e, where the Prophet ﷺ took shelter, during the battle of al-Ahzab. There is a cave called The Cave of Prostration, where the Prophet ﷺ prostrated and called upon Allah The Almighty to bring triumph to him ﷺ and to the Muslims.

Enjoy every second you are in Madinah, and do not miss out on anything, and pray that Allah The Almighty grants every Muslim an opportunity to visit it.

When Departing Madinah

When it is time to bid farewell, come to the Prophet ﷺ, and ask for his ﷺ permission for your departure and say, "I am not bidding you farewell O Messenger of Allah (meaning this will not be the last time for me to visit you)."

When it is time to go, try to be tearful and heart broken. Verily this place deserves you to weep due to your departing it, and leaving the one who resides in it ﷺ. Until you are out of its borders, stay in a state of weeping and yearning, and ask Allah The Almighty to bring you back time after time again until the time of your death, and recite three times this verse:

﴿ إِنَّ الَّذِي فَرَضَ عَلَيْكَ الْقُرْآنَ لَرَادُّكَ إِلَىٰ مَعَادٍ ۚ ﴾

"*Indeed He who has prescribed for you the Quran will surely restore you to a place of return*" *[al-Qasas, Ayah 85]*

Allah Almighty will bring you back, if He wills.

Note: It is a Sunnah to pay charity to the neighbours, the needy Muslims of the Masjid and within Madinah. It is permissible to buy presents from Madinah for your family, as a blessing from its food, dates, or water.

May Allah's peace and blessings be upon our Master Muhammad and his folks and his companions.

Praise be to Allah Lord of the Worlds.
Alhamdulilaah Rub al-'alameen.

Habib Hussain Al Saqqaf

 http://www.hemmah.net

 @HH_Followrs